

REMARKS

Applicants are grateful to the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in claim 8.

Claim 1 is amended to more particularly point out that the delineation of the in-path portion and out-of-path portions of the field of view on the video display is supplied by each field having a perceptible difference in light transmissivity, see Summary of the Invention and page 4, lines 27-30.

Claim Rejection based on Schofield

Claims 1-3 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Schofield et al. (United States Patent Number 5,670,935).

Claims 4-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Schofield et al. (United States Patent Number 5,670,935).

Schofield describes a rearview vision system that integrates the signals from two or more cameras into a single unified image. Figure 6 and the specification starting at column 10, line 32 describe a graphic overlay of a string of hash marks intended to delineate the in-path and out-of-path portions of the image. In contrast, the Applicants delineate the in-path and out-of-path portions of a single camera image by displaying the out-of-path portion with a different light transmission characteristic when compared to the in-path portion as shown in Fig. 3 and described on page 3, starting at line 27. More specifically, in the preferred embodiment the out-of-path portion is displayed as shaded or reduced light transmissivity when compared to the in-path portion. This shading effect provides the driver with an easier to interpret image for determining if an object resides in the in-path or out-of-path portions of the image.

Claim 1 is directed to Applicants' apparatus for displaying a video image that includes means for delineating in-path and out-of-path portions. In accordance with the claim, the in-path portion is displayed with a first light transmissivity, and the out-of-path portion is displayed with second, different light transmissivity. Schofield uses hash marks, but does not vary the light transmissivity. Thus, Schofield does not teach or suggest Applicants' apparatus in claim 1.

Claims 2 - 6 are dependent on amended claim 1 and so are also not taught or suggested by Schofield for reasons set forth with regard to amended claim 1.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection based in Schofield be withdrawn and that the claims be allowed.

Claim Rejection based on Schofield and Chin

Claims 7 and 9-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Schofield et al. (United States Patent Number 5,670,935) in view of Chin et al. (United States Patent 5,673,143).

Claims 7 and 9-10 are dependent on amended claim 1. For the reason set forth above, Schofield does not show varying the light transmissivity of the image as recited in amended claim 1. It follows then that the reference does not show the invention in the dependent claims that incorporate the features of claim 1.

Chin describes a thermal imaging camera and a variety of lenses to be used with the camera. The specification starting at column 2, line 32 describes various aiming reticle and one or more sets of stadia lines to assist the camera user with aiming and range estimation. In contrast, the Applicants describe a reticle that delineates the in-path and out-of-path portions camera image by displaying the out-of-path portion and the in-path portion with different

transmissivity. Neither Schofield nor Chin shows this feature. Thus, the references, even when combined do not point to Applicants' invention in claim 1, or in claims 7 and 9-10 dependent thereon.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection based on Schofield in view of Chin be withdrawn and that the claims be allowed.

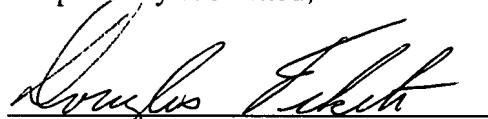
Conclusion

Claim 8 was objected to as dependent upon a rejected base claim. In view of the amendments and remarks herein, it is believed that the base claim is now allowable. Accordingly, it is requested that the objection be withdrawn, and that all claims be allowed.

If it would further prosecution of the application, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned at the phone number provided.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 50-0831.

Respectfully submitted,



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